

REMARKS

Claims 2-5 and 7-11 are pending in the application.

All claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,894,610, to Schubert et al (Schubert).

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 2-5 and 7-11 is requested.

One important limitation in each of independent claims 7 and 11 is the wireless connection between a control unit and specifically identified components. The corresponding connection in Schubert is effected via a bus 8. There is no wireless connection between a corresponding control unit and components, as set forth in each of claims 7 and 11, that is taught in, or made obvious from, Schubert.

Claims 7 and 11 have been amended to emphasize the wireless nature of the above-noted connection. As previously explained, the elimination of hard-wired connections between components and a control unit represents a significant advancement in that it eliminates the inconveniences and potential failures of corresponding hard-wired connections. Such hard-wired connections may interfere with a user performing tasks with heavy clothing under hazardous conditions. The wearing of heavy clothing, coupled with operation in an environment that is hazardous and in which activities may be performed that may compromise a hard-wired connection, may more likely lead to a condition wherein connections of components to the control unit may be dangerously interrupted.

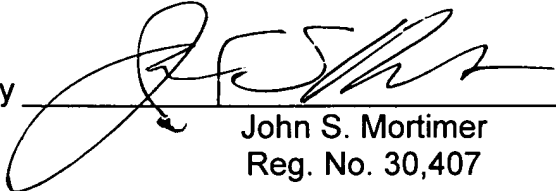
Schubert does not teach or make obvious the wireless radio connection recited in claims 7 and 11.

Accordingly, claims 7 and 11 are believed allowable, as are the claims depending therefrom which recite further significant limitations to further distinguish over Schubert.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 2-5 and 7-11 and allowance of the case are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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